

Advisory Committee on Trees – August 27, 2019

Call to order 7:05 PM

Present: Brian Townsend (staff liaison and Assistant Public Works and Parks), Ethel Dutky (recorder), Charles Jackman (chair), Robert Trumbule (member).

Review and approve July ACT minutes with corrections.

Old Business

1 – Eleanor Roosevelt Memorial Tree

Charles sent ACT Report 2019-2 regarding the replacement of the Eleanor Roosevelt Memorial Tree to the Greenbelt City clerk.

2 – Sustainable Land Care Policy

Brian reported that the amended document has been approved and City Council has accepted it.

3 – Large Ash Trees on Crescent Road

Some decline seen as selected large dead limbs is present. Dead limbs will be removed.

4 – Large Willow Oak at Hamilton and Ridge Roads

Brian reported that Bartlett Tree Experts did the level 3 assessment. Bartlett Tree reported that the tree was sound. A small amount of pruning to remove dead wood will be done. ACT remains concerned that this tree is a hazard, but we will concede to Bartlett's expert advice.

New Business

1 – Forest Preserve Advisory Board Stewardship Guidelines.

We reviewed and discussed this comprehensive document. It includes detailed descriptions of the ecosystems present and methods which will be used to manage the Forest Preserve. ACT had special concern about the mention of “controlled burns” as a management tool. ACT does not think burning is a safe method to use in woodland so close to housing and schools. All burning is prohibited in the Appendix A, see page 44-45 section 12-156 item “n”. Please add a disclaimer that burning will not ever be used in the Forest Preserve. We had some suggestions for a few additions of examples of biological pest control already present and some typographical errors. On Page 5 a map identifies various areas. We suggest that the area labeled “Public Works Dump” be called “City Inert Waste Holding area”. This is not a dump. The “Yard Waste” area is a recycling area for a variety of plant material including leaves, Christmas Trees, and other yard waste. The material is ground, mixed and left to compost. The composted material is used as a mulch in gardens and landscapes. A better name for this area would be “Yard Waste composting and recycling”. Charles has summarized our concerns and suggestions and sent them on to the Forest Preserve. In conclusion, ACT is positive about this detailed document.

Next Meeting September 24 at 7PM at Public Works

Adjourn 8:55PM.

Submitted by Ethel Dutky